

State of Vermont

House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

Concurrent House Resolution

H.C.R. 330

House concurrent resolution honoring choral conductor, musician, composer, and college music instructor Edwin Lawrence

Offered by: Representatives Morrissey of Bennington, Campion of Bennington, Corcoran of Bennington, and Mook of Bennington

Offered by: Senators Hartwell and Sears

Whereas, Edwin Lawrence is an extraordinary musician, and

Whereas, he holds a bachelor's degree in music from the State University of New York at Fredonia, and

Whereas, at Williams College, he is an artist associate teaching courses in piano, harpsichord, and organ, and

Whereas, Edwin Lawrence serves as Minister of Music for the First Congregational Church of Williamstown and Music Director of the Oldcastle Theater in Bennington, and

Whereas, for 38 years, Edwin Lawrence has served as the outstanding director of the Bennington County Choral Society (BCCS), a community chorus drawing enthusiastic singers from Bennington County and nearby New York State and Massachusetts communities, and

Whereas, Edwin Lawrence has arranged and composed music for the BCCS, and under his leadership the BCCS has commissioned musical works of other Vermont composers, including Erik Nielsen and Allen Shaw, and

Whereas, for the 250th anniversary of the Town of Bennington, he arranged musical settings for the poetry of Bennington poets Mary Ruefle, Ben Belitt, Lyle Glazier, Barbara Howes, Julia Randall, and Stephen Sandy, and

Whereas, Edwin Lawrence has conducted the combined forces of the BCCS and the Vermont Symphony on two occasions, and

Whereas, in 1976, he was one of the Vermont composers to represent the State at the Kennedy Center's Bicentennial Parade of American Music, and

Whereas, he is a founding member of the Consortium of Vermont Composers, and

Whereas, Edwin Lawrence is a recipient of the Vermont Arts Council Citation of Merit and a Paul Harris Fellowship from the Bennington Rotary Club, and

Whereas, after nearly four decades of delighting his singers and audiences with inspiring choral music performances, on April 26 and 27, 2014, Edwin Lawrence will conduct his final BCCS concerts: *Folk Mass from Two Worlds*, featuring the *Misa Criolla* by Ariel Ramirez and *Schubert's Mass in G*, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors choral conductor, musician, composer, and college music instructor Edwin Lawrence, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Edwin Lawrence.